

REMARKS

Claims 3-7 and 9-14 are pending in this application. Applicants appreciate the indication that claim 10 is allowed, and claims 3-7, 9 and 11-14 contain allowable subject matter.

By this Amendment, rejected claims 1, 2 and 8 are canceled. Allowable claims 3, 5, 7 and 9 are rewritten in independent form. Thus, all pending claims recite allowable subject matter, or depend from a claim that recites allowable subject matter, as indicated in the Office Action.

The Office Action objects to claims 8 and 9. Claim 9 is rewritten in independent form, as outlined above. The phrase of claim 8 that is objected to in the Office Action, when viewed in the context of the additional features recited in claim 9, is no longer confusing. Thus, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 3-7 and 9-14 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:GL/eks

Attachment:
Amendment Transmittal

Date: December 18, 2008

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